

**WEST**

Generate Collection

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L4: Entry 40 of 277

File: PGPB

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DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 20020078350 A1

TITLE: System and method for password throttling

Summary of Invention Paragraph (37):

[0033] According to other aspects of the invention, which may be used separately from or combined with the previously described increase in complexity of the challenges, the first challenge to the user is transmitted after the passage of a first time period following receipt of the request. If a second challenge is required due to non-authentication of the user by the response to the first challenge, the second challenge to the user is transmitted after the passage of a second time period, which is longer than the first time period, following receipt of the response. Here again, following each subsequently received response to a challenge which does not authenticate the user, a further challenge is preferably transmitted to the user after a still longer time period, i.e. a time period longer than the time period between receipt of an earlier response and transmission of the immediately proceeding challenge. A maximum time threshold similar to the maximum complexity threshold described above could also be utilized.

## CLAIMS:

6. A method for authenticating a user, comprising: receiving a request for access from a user claiming to be a particular user; transmitting, after passage of a first time period following receipt of the request, a first challenge to the user; receiving a response to the transmitted first challenge; determining if received response authenticates the user as the particular user; allowing the requested access to the user if the received response authenticates the user; and transmitting, after passage of a second time period, which is longer than the first time period, following receipt of the response, a second challenge to the user if the received response does not authenticate the user.